



The Setauket Presbyterian Church

“As active disciples of Jesus Christ, we celebrate and share the love of God among ourselves and with others.”

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

7th Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 2014

9:30 AM

February is Black History Month, many of our prayers and music have come from Africa and the African diaspora.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

We use this time to make the transition between “getting here” and “being here”.

Take these few minutes to find the still, deep places within you, where God’s Spirit dwells.

Prelude

Ringling of the Steeple Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Introit *Come All You People*

Alexander Gondo

*** Call to Worship** (Psalm 119:40-41)

O LORD, we have longed for your precepts:

In your righteousness give us life!

Let your steadfast love come to us, O LORD,

Your salvation according to your promise!

*** Hymn 423** *Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun*

DUKE STREET

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(from a prayer of Howard Thurman)*

O God, today I lay these concerns before you:

Whatever disaffection there is between me and those who are, or have been, very close to me—I would seek the root or cause of such disaffection, and with the illumination of Your mind, O God, to understand it.

I give myself to Your scrutiny that, whatever there may be in me that is responsible for what has happened, I will acknowledge.

Where I have wronged or given offense, deliberately or without intention, I seek a face-to-face forgiveness.

What I can undo, I am willing to try; what I cannot undo, with that I seek to make my peace.

How to do these things, what techniques to use, with what spirit— for these, I need and seek Your wisdom and strength, O God...

(Moment of silence for personal confession and reflection) Amen.

Assurance of God’s Grace

...Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*** Gloria**

(tune similar to Hymn 369, I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me)

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Since I laid my burden down!

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WITH THE CHILDREN AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Children should proceed to their church school class.)

HEARING THE WORD

Sung Prayer for Illumination

Hymn 322 Spirit of the Living God

First Reading Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

Ritual and Moral Holiness

19 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

2 Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

9 When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest. ¹⁰You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the LORD your God.

11 You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; and you shall not lie to one another. ¹²And you shall not swear falsely by my name, profaning the name of your God: I am the LORD.

13 You shall not defraud your neighbour; you shall not steal; and you shall not keep for yourself the wages of a labourer until morning. ¹⁴You shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling-block before the blind; you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.

15 You shall not render an unjust judgement; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbour. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbour: I am the LORD.

17 You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the LORD.

Anthem *Farther Along*

W.B. Stevens

Second Reading Matthew 5:38-48

Concerning Retaliation

38 'You have heard that it was said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." ³⁹But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; ⁴⁰and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; ⁴¹and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. ⁴²Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

Love for Enemies

43 'You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy." ⁴⁴But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. ⁴⁶For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? ⁴⁷And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

THE SERMON *Bending Towards Justice*

The Rev. Mary B. Speers

* **HYMN** (insert) *O Thou Great Friend*

FFIGYSBREN

THANKING GOD THROUGH OUR OFFERINGS

Offertory

(Please sign the Friendship Rosters found at the end of the pew,
noting the name of fellow worshippers when it is returned.)

* Doxology 592

* Prayer of Dedication *(based on Howard Thurman's translation of a Hindu prayer)*

O God, may we

Love not the world, nor yet forsake
its gifts in fear and hate.

Our lives to You an offering make,
and to You dedicate. AMEN.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

* HYMN 2172 *Come! Live in the Light!*

WE ARE CALLED

* CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION and BENECTION

CHORAL RESPONSE *Zimbabwe Hallelujah*

Abraham Maraire

POSTLUDE

please rise in body or in spirit; **unison prayers are in bold.*

Large print bulletins, Bibles, hymnals and listening devices are available; please ask a Deacon.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 2

9:30 Worship Service with Communion and the Rev. Mary Speers preaching;
Childcare (ages 1 - 3)

9:45 Church School (Preschool through 6th Grade)

11:00 Confirmation Class in the Martha Jayne Room

11:00 Adult Education Class in Jr./Sr. High Room
